

What's New at the Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Program (MYSPP) November 2010

* The 7th annual Beyond the Basics of Suicide Prevention conference is scheduled for April 8, 2011 at the Wyndham Hotel in South Portland. Keynote speakers include Thomas Joiner, author of Myths About Suicide and Jodee Blanco, author of Please Stop Laughing at Me.

* The Public Relations subcommittee is actively seeking nominations of individuals, organizations, media, first responders, or funeral home directors who have helped to spread the word about suicide prevention, intervened to save a life, or been particularly helpful in the aftermath of a suicide. To submit a nomination, send an e-mail to Linda Williams at lwilliams@mcd.org

* MYSPP has developed a new training specifically for clergy. Please share this information with faith leaders in your community. To discuss hosting a training, contact Greg Marley at 701-7807. There is a charge for this program.

* Self-injurious behavior has become more prevalent. Cornell University has developed fact sheets for various audiences as well as a Power Point that can be used. Go to www.crpsib.com for free resources appropriate for educators, parents and teens.

* **National Survivors of Suicide Day, a day of healing for bereavement after suicide, is Saturday, November 20, 2010.** Every year, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) sponsors an event to provide an opportunity for survivors of suicide loss to come together on this day for support, healing, and information. Because the problem of suicide knows no national or cultural boundaries, survivors from around the world are invited to attend a local conference or watch the webcast from home.

You are not alone. Please visit www.afsp.org/survivorday to:

1. Find a local conference site
2. Watch the live streaming webcast from a home computer from 1-2:30 pm Eastern Standard Time (GMT-5), and then join in a live online chat immediately afterwards, or
3. If you live in a time zone where watching the live streaming webcast is impractical, you can watch it later "on demand" from a home computer.
4. You can also watch webcasts from previous years at anytime.

Statewide Crisis Hotline 24/7 1-888-568-1112; statewide Information and Resource Center 1-800-499-0027

